

opposite upper and lower surfaces adapted to be placed in contact with and to support the adjacent vertebral bodies, said upper and lower surfaces being non-arcuate;

said opposite sides connecting said upper and lower surfaces and said leading and trailing ends;

an opening passing through said upper and lower surfaces for permitting for the growth of bone from adjacent vertebral body to adjacent vertebral body through said implant; and

said implant being formed by the process of cutting a section of a long bone in a direction transverse to the longitudinal axis of the long bone to form at least a portion of a bone ring and machining said leading end to form said straight portion.

112. (Amended) The implant of claim 111, wherein said lock is made of one of cortical bone and a bioresorbable material.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please add new Fig. 11 and amend Figs. 4 and 8 to include the changes marked in red in the Request for Approval of Drawing Changes submitted concurrently herewith.

REMARKS

In the Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) dated June 13, 2000 and February 5, 2002, Applicant submitted an article attributed to Muschler et al. ("The Biology of Spinal Fusion;" Spinal Fusion Science and Technique, Cotler and Cotler, pp.